

CBSA COVID Mandate Protests // 2022-02-11 16:00

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Date: Fri, 11 Feb 2022 21:04:33 +0000
Attachments: COVID Mandate Protest Map National DCO 20220211 1600.pdf (661.19 kB)

Update as of 2022-02-11 1600ET

New information in red below.

Bottom line/Summary:

Ontario:

Media reports: The Premier of Ontario announced on Feb 11, 2022 that the province is declaring a state of emergency in response to convoy protests. Cabinet will be convened to urgently enact orders to protect critical infrastructure, such as border crossings, 400 series highways, airports, bridges, and railways.

Ambassador Bridge

- As of 1400 ET, protest activity has increased not insignificantly, with multiple pedestrians milling about. Music has resumed. Vehicles have begun movement to open a single lane from the bridge.
- SOR reporting indicates that as of 1115 ET, Windsor Police are working with the protesters, advised that the protesters have agreed to open a lane of traffic into Canada, however, Windsor Police are not ready to do that as there are are pub in the area to do it safely at this time. Windsor is working with the protesters to open the lane and make it safe for traffic and protesters.
- As of 1405ET, Windsor Tunnel reports 15 min border wait times for commercial vehicles.

Sarnia Blue Water Bridge

- As of 1400 ET, truck traffic is expected to continue to increase throughout the day as traffic is diverted from the Ambassador bridge which remains closed. Currently truck traffic volumes are increasing and expected to keep growing throughout the day shift and into the evening.
- As of 1451 ET there is a 3 hrs BWT for commercial and no delay for travellers.

Peace Bridge

- As of 1330 ET, there are two protestor vehicles close to the main employee entrance. There has been no contact or interaction with CBSA personnel. Staff have been briefed as to expected behaviour, not to engage, and to report interaction to CBSA Management.
- As of 1510 ET there is a 31 min BTW for commercial and 8 min delay for travellers.

Pigeon River

- As of 11:28 ET on Feb 11, Pigeon River planned protest for Feb 12, 2022. OPP has been in contact with protest organizers. At present there are no plans to blockade the POE or highway. Protesters will meet at InterCity Mall in Thunder Bay at 1100 ET tomorrow and proceed down Highway 61 in a "slow roll." OPP will manage the protest.

Emerson:

- As of 1500 ET, it was reported that I29 Highway on the US side was closed. USCBP is not allowing any vehicles to proceed southbound passed the POE so all vehicles are staging on the North Bound US commercial highway or CBSA parking area. Highway visibility and road conditions continue to be problematic.

Upcoming Protest Events

ONGOING	CONFIRMED	UNCONFIRMED
· Ottawa – Parliament Hill protest continues · Coutts – North and South bound traffic is flowing with one lane open in each direction and gates are open. Protestors continue to line the highway north of the POE. · Sarnia – Hwy 402 blockade · Sault Ste. Marie – protestor offsite · Windsor Convoy for Freedom 2022 – Ambassador Bridge · Emerson – North and South bound traffic blockage north of POE · Pacific Highway (near POE)	· Ottawa – protests continue at Parliament Hill and downtown. · Montreal Airport – Feb 12, 2022 Overseas: · New Zealand – protest activity in support of Canadian protests · France – Protest activity in support of Canadian protests (convoy to Belgium)	CANADA <u>February 11</u> · Canadian Airports – Noon · Vancouver International Airport <u>February 12</u> · Woodstock ATL/ Houlton, ME · Lacolle, QUE · Montreal, QUE (convoy to Ottawa) · Lansdowne, NOR · Peace Bridge, SOR · Thunder Bay / Pigeon River · Regway, PRA · Osoyoos, PAC – Feb 12, 2022 · Paterson, PAC- Feb 12, 2022 <u>February 13</u> <u>Unknown date</u> · SOR Rail blockade · North Portal, SK / Boissevain, MG US · Buffalo – Feb 11, 2022 · Peace Bridge, NY – Feb 12, 2022 · Port Huron / Sarnia – Feb 12, 2022 Overseas · Brussels - Freedom Convoy Europe 2022 (Unconfirmed) · Activists across the Netherlands planning a vehicular convoy protests on Feb 12, joining the rally in Brussels on Feb 14. (unconfirmed) · The Hague, Netherlands – demonstration on Feb 13 from 1300 to 1600 (unconfirmed) · Australia- protest activity in support of Canadian protests

Enhanced vigilance examinations:

No new vigilance examinations reported

Intelligence Landscape

BLUF: As of February 11 at 01330ET, the overall threat to CBSA officers and infrastructure is low.

REGIONAL POE IMPACTS

ATLANTIC REGION (ATL)

- No impacts to operations reported

QUEBEC REGION

- A protest and march are planned at Jarry Park in Montreal on 12 Feb.
- Montreal will be prepared for any protests, Mayor Plante vows. [Link](#)

NORTHERN ONTARIO REGION (NOR)

Fort Frances

- As of 1402 ET, there has been an update on preparations for a protest has been scheduled for Sunday Feb13, 2022 from 10am to 2pm in the Central Avenue area in Fort Frances. This is one of the streets leading up to the export lane to the USA. OPP has been provided a diagram of the CBSA sterile zone. The proposed protest area is no where near the sterile zone. Local Bridge caretakes are aware of the scheduled protest and are available if needed on Sunday. CBSA employees have been instructed to avoid parking in the Tourist Info lot or on Church Street outside the CBSA building.

Sault Ste. Marie

- At approx. 1200 ET, a white caravan with 2 individuals from previous updates arrived, have put signs out and are standing across from property traffic exit. No operational impact at this time

GREATER TORONTO AREA (GTA)

- Partner agency reports in response to social media posts announcing a possible demonstration, Toronto Police Service have closed streets around Queen's Park Circle to traffic.
- Toronto Police board says it supports plans to manage further trucker convoy protests in the city. [Link](#)

SOUTHERN ONTARIO REGION (SOR)

Ambassador Bridge:

- As of 1400 ET, the railroad gates were closed for about 25 minutes preventing employees from accessing the site, however they were able to find alternate routing. At least one protest-related vehicle is parked in a University of Windsor parking lot across the road, facing secondary, with a clear sightline.
- As of 13:30, multiple news outlets reporting live from the area, and posting updates to social media.

Windsor Tunnel

- As of 1405ET, Windsor Tunnel reports 15 min border wait times for commercial vehicles.

Blue Water Bridge

- As of 1400 ET, truck traffic is expected to continue to increase throughout the day as traffic is diverted from the Ambassador bridge which remains closed. Currently truck traffic volumes are increasing and expected to keep growing throughout the day shift and into the evening.

- As of 1451 ET there is a 3 hrs BWT for commercial and no delay for travellers.

Fort Erie Peace Bridge

- As of 1130, there is no new information on the open source website - NY States Rallies. The page previously noted plans to protest mask mandates Feb 11, 0222. There will likely be some live streaming as the events occur.
- *Uncorroborated Intel:* Families are Essential, will be demonstrating on both sides the border, at Mather Arch next to the bridge in Fort Erie and at Pat Sole Park at the base of the bridge in Buffalo. The group's organizer, an American living in Stoney Creek, said that group has no plans to go onto the bridge. It is anticipated that this group will be of similar make-up to the protest that occurred at the Rainbow Bridge.

PRARIE REGION (PRA)

Coutts

- A request from RCMP arrived on Feb 11, 2022 requesting suspension of CBSA processing at Coutts. The CBSA will maintain an operational presence at the POE in the event that the Coutts blockade is lifted or emergency services are required to transit the POE. The CBSA will continue to redeploy resources from Coutts to nearby POEs to handle traveller and commercial goods diversions. CBSA will communicate any changes in hours and alternate POEs via Border Alert Messaging, communications and the external website.

Emerson:

- As of 1500 ET, it was reported that I29 Highway on the US side was closed. USCBP is not allowing any vehicles to proceed southbound passed the POE so all vehicles are staging on the North Bound US commercial highway or CBSA parking area. Highway visibility and road conditions continue to be problematic.

PACIFIC REGION:

- No impacts to CBSA operations reported

Other:

- At 14:45 ET, on 11 February 2022, it was confirmed that the NOTAM over parliament hill has been extended until 28 February 2022 at 16:00 EST. (Source: Transport Canada – Aviation Operations)
- Transport Canada reports NOTAM is in effect for airspace restrictions over Queen's Park in Toronto until 13 Feb.
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